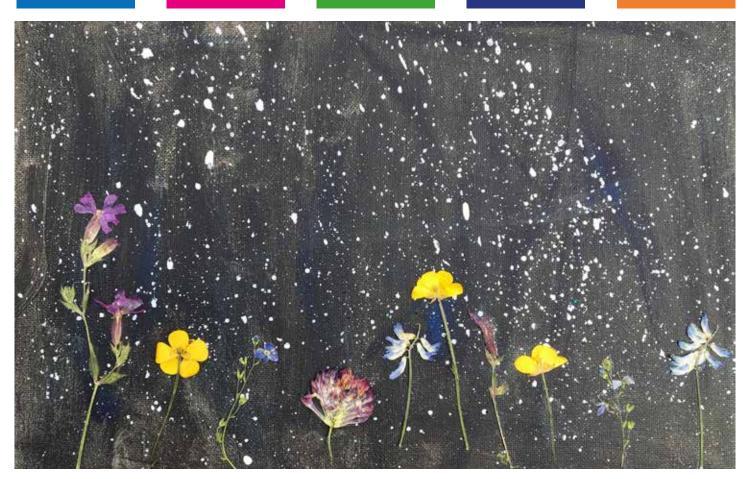
# Community \*Support DG ©

**EDITION 28** Friday 17 July 2020



Lexi Reid, winner of the Gracefield Arts Centre Dried Flower Painting Challenge. We love the choice of flowers and the starry sky.







Connect





Support



## What's Inside

Free school meals and clothing grants

Spaces for people

Community stories

www.dumgal.gov.uk/supportdg Tel 030 33 33 3000



# Welcome to Community



## Your Dumfries and Galloway Community Bulletin

#### Welcome to edition 28 of Community.

This week we've seen the most significant relaxation of COVID-19 measures, with the reopening of hairdressers and barbers, bars and restaurants, cinemas, tourist attractions, places of worship and childcare settings.

We're delighted to see more of our local businesses restarting but we are told by our public health officials that this could also bring the greatest resurgence in the virus – so please continue to follow public health measures, including physical distancing rules, and wear a face covering on public transport and in shops.

The reopening of indoor spaces requires anti-virus precautions to be in place and all customers will be asked to provide their name and a phone number, as part of the NHS Test and Protect scheme, and we ask you to be patient and understanding when staff ask for this information.

Inside today we continue with our mix of your great community stories, public health and council information, and as always we thank you for taking the time to read your Dumfries and Galloway community bulletin.

# with best wishes Elaine and Rob



@dgcouncil



@DumfriesGallowayCouncil



**Email updates dumgal.gov.uk/newsletters** 

If you would like some help understanding this or need it in another format please contact 030 33 33 3000



**Cllr Elaine Murray** Council Leader



**Cllr Rob Davidson** Depute Leader



## Reopening of Galleries, Museums and Heritage Sites

We've missed you and we're looking forward to welcoming you back as soon as we can.

From Wednesday (15 July) the Scottish Government eased COVID-19 restrictions for museums, galleries, monuments, libraries, cinemas and other visitor attractions to enable them to reopen – but as we continue to put in place measures for physical distancing, health and safety it'll be a little while before we reopen our venues across Dumfries and Galloway.

Meanwhile, you can keep in touch through our venue Facebook pages, where you'll also find art and craft activity ideas and interesting stories about our collections.

#### More information at:

www.futuremuseum.co.uk www.burnsscotland.com www.exploreart.co.uk www.kirkcudbrightgalleries.org.uk/artists-footsteps www.rbcft.co.uk

## Communities responding to COVID-19



## **Breathe For Asthma**

Asthma UK have launched Breathe, a new e-magazine during the coronavirus pandemic to bring you the latest health information and asthma advice in one place. It aims to keep readers informed about the work that Asthma UK do, health advice specific COVID-19 and research. Sign up at asthma.org.uk or on social media.

## **Spaces for People**

Never has it been more important than now that we ensure our town centres are safe spaces for people to live, work and spend time in. In response to COVID-19, our Council is introducing temporary solutions to make it safer for people to walk, cycle and wheel in and around town centres as businesses start to reopen.

Funded by Transport Scotland and administered by Sustrans Scotland, Spaces for People is a new, temporary infrastructure programme in Scotland which offers funding and support to make it safer for people who choose to walk, cycle or wheel during COVID-19.

We've launched an interactive online tool, Dumfries and Galloway Spaces for People Commonplace, where people can highlight where and why they can't safely physically distance in the current town centre environment and identify temporary solutions which could help to overcome this.

On the Commonplace news page, you'll also be able to find information on transport measures that have been proposed by our council to aid physical distancing as well as those that have already been put in place.

We're welcoming you back to our town centres but we need to prioritise and enable safe physical distancing

# **FREE**School Meal and Clothing Grants



Free School Meal and School Clothing grants applications are now live for the 2020/21 academic year. Applications for the upcoming school year can now be made at https://www.dumgal.gov.uk/article/15246/School-clothing-grants.

Full details of the qualifying conditions are covered on the webpage, and eligible parents/guardians are entitled to £134 per child. Please note, parents/guardians who've received Free School Meals direct payments following the closure of schools will automatically be assessed, with over 1,000 households contacted to advise we will begin making payments this week.

If you're currently receiving direct payments for school meals and meet one of the noted qualifying conditions, you do not need to reapply.

to support local businesses and residents to stay safe by limiting transmission of COVID-19. In our journeys around our town centres, we encourage people to walk, cycle or wheel at a safe physical distance

from others, avoiding unnecessary car journeys and always shop safe and shop local.

So if you know of locations in our town centres that may need temporary measures to ensure people can get about safely during the COVID-19, or areas where practising physical distancing in our towns is difficult, or where



more space is needed to queue outside shops or pass people on pavements, then let us know. This is your opportunity to shape your local area and have a say in the future of our town centres.

The website will be open for comment this week and will close at the end of August. https://spacesforpeopledumfriesgalloway.commonplace.is/

## HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES

From this week we're now accepting small single axle trailers at our Household Waste Recycling Centres. We ask that you don't turn up with large trailers, and please bag as much waste as possible (soil, rubble etc), as this will allow us to run to time.

You can book your slot online at https://supportdg.dumgal.gov.uk/waste



## From Monday 13 July 2020 small trailers will be allowed into the HWRCs

supportdg.dumgal.gov.uk/waste or call 030 33 33 3000 to book a slot

**Cars and vans permitted** 

Small single axle trailers

## Must book a slot to attend

Opening times, maps to sites and FAQs also on website







supportdg.dumgal.gov.uk/waste

# A Dark Day for Scots-Italians

An event in July 1940 is scarred into the memories of Scozzesi families, including many in Dumfries and Galloway.

It's now 80 years since the ship Arandora Star was sunk by a torpedo fired from a U-boat.

On board the SS Arandora Star when it sailed from Liverpool were 734 interned Italian men, 479 interned German men, 86 German prisoners of war, 200 military guards, and 147 crew. The ship was bound for Newfoundland in Canada, its human cargo headed for internment camps.

In June 1940, Italian prime minister Benito Mussolini declared war on Britain and prime minister Winston Churchill issued the command to "collar the lot". Italian immigrant men over the age of 16 were regarded as "enemy aliens" who could be a security risk in time of war.

Men who had been at the heart of their communities, running fish and chip shops, ice-cream parlours and barber shops, were suddenly arrested and bound for internment in the Isle of Man and further afield.

U-47 was heading for home, with only one torpedo left. Commander Günther Prien, the 'Bull of Scapa



Flow', who sank HMS Royal Oak, was fretting that he wouldn't top the table for sunk shipping tonnage. Sinking the 15,200 tonne Arandora Star would change that.

805 people lost their lives, including the captain, 12 officers, 42 crew, and 37 military guards.

486 Italians died and the impact on the Italian community in Scotland was huge. Most families were related to or knew someone who was on the Arandora Star. For example, Leith born Eduardo Paolozzi, who went on to be a world-renowned sculptor and pioneer of pop art, lost his father, uncle and grandfather while he was interned in Saughton Prison in Edinburgh.

## ROGUE TRADERS

If an uninvited trader knocks on your door and tells you that urgent work needs done on your house or garden, don't take their word for it. Always get a second opinion from someone you trust and get at least three quotes before having any work carried out. For extra peace of mind, use a Trusted Trader.



More information at www.dumgal.gov.uk/trustedtrader

## Stranraer Scottish Week

Scottish Week commences in Stranraer on 27 July, and a series of socially distanced and safe events are planned for the community of all ages to enjoy. Among them is a scarecrow competition with great prizes. It is easy to get involved, and you just need to let your imagination run wild and create a scarecrow.

Organisers of the week said: "Get your family creative hat on to make a fun or serious scarecrow. Lots of towns across the UK do these as regular events, so we thought we'd include it in the Stranraer Scottish Week. There is £100 worth of prizes up for grabs, but you have to be in it to win it! Scarecrows can be any size – full size in the garden, perhaps, or doll size for the window – they all count." Organisers are also encouraging shops to take part.

The traditional parade through the town centre is having to be rethought and so children are being encouraged to don fancy dress at home, get their photo taken 'striking a pose'.

To enter is easy you can upload pictures and competition entries on their website or send them through Facebook. The closing date for entries is 28 July.

The King and Queen of Scottish Week have already been selected: Finn Milligan (6) is King. Finn took on the challenge of climbing the same height as Ben Nevis up his stairs during the lockdown over the course of a week and raised over £1,000 for the Coronation Day Centre.



Kyra Lund (11) is the Queen and has worked very hard helping the Fed-Up Café charity amidst the pandemic. Kyra has been juggling her schoolwork and the cafe in order to help those in need providing meals for members of the community who are stuck in self-isolation, unwell or homeless.

As part of the proceedings, there is also a special recognition award for Lloyd Murdoch (11) who was playing football with his parents out at Ardwell Bay and heard a faint noise and noticed something out in the water, and it turned out to be a father and his 11-year-old daughter who had jumped from a rubber dingy after it drifted too far from the shore. The alarm was raised and the two people saved thanks to Lloyd's quick thinking.

Judges from housing landlords DGHP and Loreburn praised the high standard of all this year's nominations.

## **Patient Visiting At Hospitals**

This week very limited patient visiting has resumed in hospitals within Dumfries and Galloway.

To protect patients, visitors, staff and communities from the dangers of COVID-19,



many restrictions will apply for those people visiting a hospital inpatient. These include each patient having only one named visitor for the duration of their stay in hospital, restrictions on access to specific patient areas, and a need for visitors to wear face coverings and follow hygiene guidance.

NHS Dumfries and Galloway's Medical Director Dr Kenneth Donaldson said: "It has been a difficult period for people spending time in hospital, generally unable to receive visitors. The changes which took effect recently will make a difference, but it is certainly not a case of visiting returning to normal. Due to the ongoing dangers posed by the coronavirus, and in line with the rest of Scotland, significant restrictions remain in place. We would ask everyone to note these restrictions, and to work with us to help ensure the safety of patients, visitors, staff and the wider public."

#### The requirements for hospital visitors are:

- Visiting needs to be booked in advance with the ward/hospital.
- Visitors will need to agree in advance with the ward/hospital when they are coming, and the hospital staff will ask that they only stay for a short period.
- Each hospital inpatient is permitted one named visitor for the duration of their stay. This named visitor must supply full contact details, provided to the inpatient's ward ahead of the first visit.
- Anyone transporting a named visitor for a hospital visit will be required to wait in their vehicle.
- When the visitor enters the hospital, they must be wearing a face covering and must follow directions on hygiene, including the use of hand sanitisers.

Some areas where there may be COVID patients receiving treatment will be off-limits to visitors. Within Dumfries and Galloway Royal Infirmary, these are:

- Ward D9
- Ward B2
- The Combined Assessment Unit (CAU)
- In addition, due to the types of care being provided in C6 and the Short Stay Unit, these wards remain off-limits, too.

Dr Donaldson said: "Loved ones and friends want to be able to make hospital visits. We would ask that they note the restrictions which apply as very limited inpatient visiting resumes, and if they have any questions to contact the ward of their friend or loved one."

## Thornhill's Alternative Gala

Thornhill's alternative gala was a huge success, despite it not being what was originally planned. Like so many galas across Dumfries and Galloway, community organisers had to cancel or make alternative plans because of the COIVD-19 outbreak.

In Thornhill there were a range competition for young, and the young at heart, the most popular of which was



a traditional Tattie Bogle making, where there were a total of 44 official entries, with a few unregistered entries also popping up to add to the village's great community spirit. The "Bogles" brought a real sense of fun and festivity to the streets of the village, and a map was published so residents could visit them all. First prize was awarded to Anna Marchbank's entry, for E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial, second prize was to the MacCormicks for Sleeping on the Job, and third prize was for Mrs Potts by Derek Adamson.

Well done to everyone involved.





# Activities Page

## Code Word

Answers on back page

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## Dingbats

**NEAFRIENDED** 

**STA4NCE** 

aged aged aged

quite

**YOUR TIME** 

Travel

MARY + MARY

give give give get get get get

BELT HITTING

# Can you name the cartoon cat?



















## **Key Contacts**

### **National COVID-19 Helpline**

0800 111 4000

For people who don't have family or existing community support and can't get online and who are over 70, disabled, require the support of mental health services, are pregnant or receive a flu jab for health reasons, will be directed to our dedicated local team who can offer essential assistance.

NHS24

111

www.nhsinform.scot

**Emergency** 

999

**Doctor Out of Hours** 

111

**Dumfries and Galloway Council** 

030 33 33 3000

www.dumgal.gov.uk/SupportDG

**Business Support Helpline** 

01387 260280

Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

**Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub** 

030 33 33 3001

**Social Work Out of Hours** 

01387 273660

**Third Sector Dumfries and Galloway** 

0300 303 8558

**Dumfries and Galloway** 

**Citizens Advice Service** 

0300 303 4321

www.dagcas.org

**Samaritans** 

116 123

**SHOUT** 

Text SHOUT to 85258 for free

**Scotland's Domestic Abuse Helpline** 

0800 027 1234

**Age Scotland** 

0800 12 44 222

Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

**Shelter Scotland** 

0808 800 444

Mon-Fri 9am-5pm

**LGBT Helpline Scotland** 

0300 123 2523

Childline

0800 1111

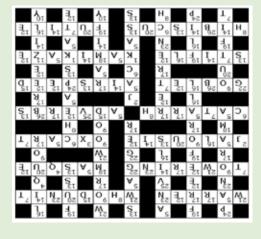
If you have any positive stories about things that are happening in your community and would like to see them featured in Community – please email us at

communitybulletin@dumgal.gov.uk

and one of our reporters will get back to you.



Cartoon Cats 1. Garfield, Z.Tom, 3.Pink Panther, 4. Cheshire cat (Alice in Wonderland), 5. Figaro (Pinocchio), 6. Tigger (Winnie the Pooh), 7. Felix, 8. Puss in boots (Shrek), 9. Bagheera (Jungle Book)



bingbats

A friend in need
For instance
Midale-aged
Quite right
Your time is up
Iravel overseas
Summary
Forgive and forget
Forgive and forget

Answers